DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

MM 99-339

DOCKET NO 99-339: Carol-Lynn Fenster Responding to DA 01-325 (received electronically in the Disabilities Rights Office 2/9/01)

From:

"Carol-Lynn M. Fenster" < tallcat47@earthlink.net>

To:

<access@fcc.gov>

Date:

Fri, Feb 9, 2001 11:08 AM

Subject:

Re: FCC Seeks Comments on Emergency Information Rules

Thank you for the opportunity to reply to this issue.

RECEIVED

I hope you will continue to closely monitor the Weather Channel until they are in compliance. I live in an area that is fully functional and completely compliant, issuing an aural tone before each emergency FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION weather alert. I have not always responded to the first tone, depending on what I was doing or where I was in my apartment. I think this is an absolutely necessary requirement.

MAR 1 5 2001

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

TWC states "Today, less than 2.9 million subscribers (or 4% optic's total subscribers) are being served by systems using a Star III.". It seem to me that 2.9 million lives concerned with the issue of safety in the face of impending dangerous weather is not a small consideration. They further ask for exemption for a period of time until 2003/2004, a period of 2-3 years. The examples they cite for precedence for such a time exemption are for 12-18 months. 2-3 years seems excessive when people's lives are on the line. The statement that "Similarly, a short-term waiver is warranted here,

is part of the cost and requirements of doing business. In short, it does seem that some period of time is needed for compliance. It would seem to me that one year - eighteen months at

the absolute most - should be more than adequate.

do so." seems self-serving. Compliance with existing FCC regulations

particularly since TWC is willing to expend a substantial sum of money to upgrade its Star Jrs., and it just needs additional time to

Sincerely, Carol-Lynn M. Fenster

FROM: Carol-Lynn M. Fenster

No. of Copies rec'd 2

167 W. Humboldt Pkwy. #304 Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 884-2818

```
>On December 20, 2000, The Weather Channel filed a letter with the
>Commission regarding "Request for Clarification Regarding the Aural
>Tone Requirements of the Commission's Video Description Rules, 47
>C.F.R. ° 79.2(b)(1)(iii)." This rule states that "[e]mergency
>information that is provided in the video portion of programming
>that is not a regularly scheduled newscast, or a newscast that
>interrupts regular programming, must be accompanied by an aural
>tone." The Commission has explained that, if a broadcast station or
>multichannel video programming distributor (MVPD) provides emergency
>information through a crawl or scroll, it must accompany that
>information with an aural tone.
>The Weather Channel seeks clarification that "it is in compliance
>with the aural tone requirement in 79.2(b)(1)(iii) of the rules when
>it provides an aural tone prior to the first time that it provides a
>particular crawl or scroll containing emergency information." The
>Weather Channel thus seeks clarification that it need not accompany
>each otherwise identical crawl or scroll with an aural tone. In
>the alternative, The Weather Channel seeks an exemption from the
>rules because it asserts that accompanying each crawl or scroll with
>an aural tone would constitute an undue burden.
>
>Comments are due on or before February 27, 2001 and Reply comments
>are due on or before March 9, 2001.
>The Weather Channel's petition along with the public notice can be
>viewed in its entirety on the Disabilities Rights Office web site
```

```
>at: www.fcc.gov/cib/dro.
>
If you do not have access to the Internet and wish these documents
>to be electronically sent to you, please send an email to
>access@fcc.gov stating this request.
>
If you have questions, concerns or need assistance in regard to
>disability issues, please do not hesitate to contact us at
>access@fcc.gov.
>
The Disabilities Rights Office
>
>
>----
>You are currently subscribed to droinfo@info.fcc.gov as:
>TALLCAT47@EARTHLINK.NET
```

>To unsubscribe send a blank email to leave-droinfo-366V@info.fcc.gov